

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thank the Examiner for the indication of allowance of claim 5 of the present application. Applicants request also examination of new claims 39 and 40 submitted with the Amendment After Final filed in this application on April 22, 2004.

Claims 1-40 are currently pending, claims 10-14, 19-21, 27-31 and 35 having been withdrawn. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: July 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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